





REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 2144

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

09/740,542

Filed:

December 18, 2000

Inventor(s):

John H. Howard, David Robinson, and Randall D.

Rettberg

Title:

Direct Access from Client

to Storage Device

Examiner:

Gerezgiher, Yemane

M.

Group/Art Unit:

2144

Atty. Dkt. No:

5181-59700

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Lawrence J. Merkel

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF October 21, 2004

999999999999999

Commissioner for Patents Mailstop AF P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of October 21, 2004, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.